

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club

Next Meeting AUGUST 7th 2009, 7:00 PM



NO MEETING IN JULY!

Due to the 4th of July Holiday weekend, there will NOT be a radio club meeting in July 2009.

Rotator Repair and Maintenance

By: *Jim Pickett, K5LAD*

Several different companies, both foreign and domestic, have build various types and sizes of antenna rotators. The US company Cornell-Dubilier Electronics (CDE) in North Carolina designed and built hundreds and thousands of their units over the decades they were in business. Eventually, during the 1980s, CDE sold their rotator line, including molds and tooling, to the Hy-Gain Company. Hy-Gain continued to manufacture the line of antenna rotators until they sold the same equipment and rights to MFJ, Inc. in Mississippi. There have been some modifications to the original design, especially in the control units, but a comparison of newer units with the original CDE units will see more similarities than differences. Prices have increased in these products, as prices on almost everything else has increased, but a required part for a 40 year-old CDE rotator is usually still available from the company currently selling the rotator line. This has been a boon to we hams who like to get the last good measure for any piece of equipment we own.

There are several companies whose primary function is to repair and rebuild these older antenna rotator units for those who are hesitant to open their non-operating rotor. If you are in that category, a short trip through a current QST or CQ magazine should help you find one of these folks. I've never used any of them but I've heard good things from people who have so it that's your desire, I would not discourage you.

Personally, I enjoy working on my equipment so when I needed some repair work on one of my own rotators, I chose to do it myself. I spent some time searching across the Internet but I was surprised at the

lack of information available. I'm not sure why this info is not out there, perhaps most people are using the commercial rebuilders or maybe the people who have done the work on their rotators have not shared their experiences with the ham community.

Several years ago I rebuilt one of my rotors and took pictures and wrote myself notes as I went along. When I published my article here on my website I received numerous comments of thanks from people who used my information and fixed their rotors. That article is the first choice on this menu. I have continued to receive emails from people using this info. I hope the new addition to the list will be as helpful for some.

Few things are more frustrating to a ham than an antenna rotator which fails. It might be a failure to turn (either partially or completely), a failure to indicate the (correct) direction, or an intermittent turning or indicating. There are several companies, who advertise in the ham publications, and are set up to repair or recondition rotators and I've heard lots of good things about them. I prefer, however, to attempt my own repairs on my rotators although there may come a time when I'll have to send mine off to the "hospital."

CDE/Hy-Gain/MFJ Rotator

If you, like me, want to tackle an errant CDE rotator, I've tried to describe the steps which I took to accomplish this. Hopefully, it will make enough sense that others can follow these steps and have the same success. I use the term CDE rotator since that was the original manufacturer back in the 70s when I had a ham store and sold them. CDE later sold their rotator operation to HyGain who made them for many years and then sold to MFJ Enterprises in Mississippi. Many, if not all, of the parts for the CDE rotors are still available from MFJ.



Rotor Repair and Maintenance cont.

To begin all CDE rotator repairs:

1. If possible, turn the rotor facing North or center scale on the indicator meter
2. It helps to have a device with at least a 1 1/2 inch pipe standing securely upright for mounting the rotor upside down upon. Mine uses a floor flange with a 4 inch 1 1/2 inch pipe mounted on a small piece of 2 x 6 lumber. I'd like to tell you that my rotor repair mount was carefully designed and built, just for this purpose. The truth is, I built it to use with my travel trailer to act as a base for a mast holding a TV antenna. The beveled edges of the one 2 x 6 fit between the two wheels on one side of the trailer.
3. With a magic marker, make a matching mark that lines up on both pieces of the rotor shell. This is the top shell piece and the shell piece with the inside grooves used with the brake wedge. This action and that in step 4 below will save you MUCH time and frustration when it comes time to reassemble your rotator.
4. With a magic marker, make a matching mark that lines up on the smaller shell piece (with the inside brake grooves) with the bottom plate of the rotator. This bottom plate is how the rotator mounts to the tower or mast.
5. When the screws are removed, make sure you can capture all the ball bearings, because they WILL fall out and try to cover your table and floor. Be ye forewarned. I received a note from George - WA2VNV with the additional suggestion:
I wish to add a suggestion about the ball bearing fallout problem. On my sailboat, I have to clean/wash & re-lube the winches which also have a bearing fallout problem. In this case, having a ball or bearing fall overboard is a more serious problem than chasing balls around the dusty basement floor! One of the simple tricks is to use an additional box top (approx 12 x 12 x 6 in (L,W,H)) with a round hole cut in the bottom sized so that it just fits over the pipe & flange that holds the rotor in place during disassembly. It will contain any/all parts and balls that fall out and also keep them clean. Then you can carefully transfer them to the other box top for inspection, cleaning, etc.
NOTE: *The bearing holders are plastic pieces which hold the individual ball bearings. These plastic pieces DO NOT fit either way. When disassembling your rotor, take careful note of the way they are mounted. If you think you might not remember the proper way they sit inside the rotator, take a digital picture of the bearings and races while they are still inside the rotator. This action, alone, can save you much time and frustration. Whether you finish this activity with all of your hair may depend on you carefully following this noted paragraph.*

6. Have a container (top of large box) handy to place the ball bearing races and bearings in a flat condition. There are typically two sets of ball bearings (three for the Tail-Twister rotor). Some of the rotors have a single ball in every bearing space in the race while some of the lesser expensive models only place a ball in every other space. If you are buying new bearings to replace the originals, I would personally buy enough ball bearings to place one in every space in the race.
7. When the bottom outer shell is removed, take careful note of the way the bearing races are positioned and placed (as noted in the NOTE: in red above).
8. When lifting out the motor assembly, if the ring gear is still in one piece, take note of where the end-stop stop is in relation to the potentiometer and the rest of the inner assembly. **NOTE:** Often with cast aluminum ring gears, which were standard with the Ham M – Ham IV series, the cause of a rotor failure is a broken ring gear. It is usually broken into several pieces. The cast aluminum ring gear can be directly replaced with the stainless steel gear that was standard in the Tail-Twister rotor. Both of these gears are available from MFJ and they often have them on hand at their hamfest booths.
9. The bearing races and ball bearings can be thoroughly washed out with gasoline but this must be done **CAREFULLY** and in an open, outside area.
NOTE: *I was severely chastised for using gasoline for this step and I agree that it's a poor thing to do. I do NOT recommend the use of gasoline as a cleaner since there are other products as good or better and less volatile. I was just saying, in this article, that I did use gasoline because I was in a hurry, I didn't have the proper cleaning product available, and I'm not very smart.*
10. Big chunks of hardened grease should be removed from the inside of the rotator as well as all pieces of the broken ring gear if it was broken.





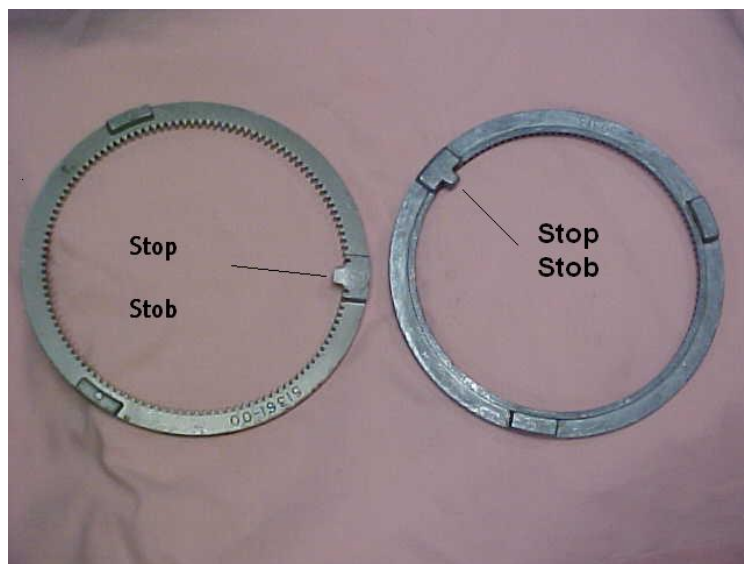
11. Clean all of the inner gears with a cloth soaked in gasoline. Clean all of the inner parts of the rotor.

12. If the indicator potentiometer is intermittent, it may be dirty so that should be cleaned. If the rotor was subjected to abuse or if it failed due to a nearby lightning strike, part of the potentiometer may be burned away leaving an open circuit. I never did have much luck repairing a break in the resistance wire on the pot since this type of wire is not generally solderable. Since it lives in a pretty inaccessible area on the top of the tower, I prefer to replace the whole pot unit. They are also available from MFJ via a telephone call to their toll-free number or a visit to their hamfest booth. They are not cheap by any means but I believe it's worth removing a problem that might soon appear worse when I can't easily provide a fix.

Also if you think the cost is excessive, just bite the bullet and buy it anyway. They're the only ones around who manufacture this piece and you won't find one "pretty much like the old one" anywhere else. There is no competition for this priority piece and it's not something you can duplicate in your home workshop. A good and clean indicating potentiometer inside your rotator and atop your tower or mast will help to assure that you can continue using your rotator to turn that beam and seek out that choice DX station as the propagation improves..... uhhhh, make that WHEN the propagation improves.

13. While the rotator unit is opened up, and cleaned up, this is probably a good time to look over the wires and soldered connections on the motor and the end-stop switches. Again, any problem you find is much easier fixed now than during the next contest or blizzard.

14. Look over the ball bearings carefully. If you see any rust on a ball bearing it's time to replace it/them and if one needs replacement, I'd replace all of them. At one time I looked in the yellow pages to find a bearing seller and replacement bearings for my whole Tail-Twister were quite inexpensive. MFJ also sells a packet of these ball bearings but my experience has been these from MFJ are two to three times the cost of bearings purchased from a local company that deals in bearings. I'd check the yellow pages for companies selling them, they should not be a difficult local item to find.
15. When it is time to re-grease the rotor, I used a grease which was recommended to me quite a few years ago. I've seen many different recommendations for rotor grease and one may be just as good as the next. When I wanted to find a good grease, the folks I talked to who were "in the know" recommended a grease with both cold and hot temperature operation and what I bought was "High Temperature Grease LC #2" from Lubriko Lubricants. The container advertises "Operating Temperature Range -40°F to 400°F (Intermittently to 450°F)" so I felt like that pretty well covered my typical station operation. This grease is the typical greenish-brown color. It comes in a tube about 9" tall and 2" diameter. I've used it several times and still have plenty, although the mass to dip into is getting just past the length I can reach with a finger. I may have to go borrow one of my wife's butter knives for the next grease job on a rotor rebuild.



Stop stobs trip the "end of rotation" limit switches inside the rotator.



Rotor Repair and Maintenance cont.

16. Once greased up good, and with all of the necessary parts repaired or replaced, it's time to re-assemble the unit. Again, the top rotor shell should be clamped to the bench pipe and placed with the inside center potentiometer moving molded piece forward.

17. The ring gear should be placed with the end-stop stob to the assembler's left or to match the direction it was when the rotator was first opened in Step 8.

18. Note also that the bearing races are placed in the groove in the same direction that they were in Step 7. For my rotator, it placed the smooth side of the plastic race up toward the inside of the rotator.

19. Load one bearing race onto the machined groove around and near the top of the rotator shell. The race should have all of the bearings, whether new or old, installed and gooey with grease. Usually if you continue to hold the race in its natural circle, the bearings will stay in. If the re-assembler gets too careless and lets the ends of the race come apart very much, some (or all) of the bearings will come out and let gravity determine their fate. Remember that they are now gooey with grease and they will land where they can do the most damage or where they can pick up the maximum amount of dirt and dust bunnies on the floor. Extra care during this operation will be worthwhile and make you much happier during the coming hour(s).

NOTE: *One reader, who obviously has tread this path, wrote me with the following comment: "There are two kinds of people in the world. Those who have chased those ball bearings all over the shop floor, and those who have never opened a Ham-M, Ham IV, T2X, etc."*



Indicator Potentiometer

20. Place the potentiometer to the center of its range. Carefully lower the motor assembly so that the potentiometer copper spring engages the molded piece located on the inside top of the larger rotor shell. It is very important that this piece be placed properly since, if it does not, the meter will probably indicate movement in one direction but not the other and will stay where it ended up on the first turn. Like the old carpenter's axiom, "Measure Twice, Cut Once" it is important to spend some time to do this operation very carefully. NOTE: The newer potentiometers don't seem to have a copper spring but it now is a silver metal piece as shown in the "Indicator potentiometer" picture above.

21. If everything is seated correctly, the inner gears will be engaged in the ring gear, the potentiometer will be properly engaged in the piece in the top of the shell, and the motor assembly will be centered within the shell. You're looking at the rotator's 8-pin terminal strip which is now on top. You should be able to see equal spacing around the motor assembly piece as it is now resting on the inner ball bearings. If you are able to easily attach the rotor (seated upside down on the pipe) and the control box via a piece of 8-wire cable, it would be a good idea to try out the box. If all is OK, the rotor will turn a full 360 degrees and should automatically stop at the extreme ends of its travel. If this does not happen, the problem MUST be corrected at this time. Do not go ahead and reassemble the two shells, HOPING that it will somehow fix itself and all will be OK..... it won't! Guaranteed, it won't!

22. If, however, you see it turn a full 360 degrees and see it stop at each end of travel, sit down for a minute and congratulate yourself on your deed. You've accomplished the most difficult part.

NOTE: *At one point I was having difficulty in reassembling my rotator. It was just a small amount too thick and when the final screws were tightened, the motor stalled and refused to turn. The problem was a failure to get the ball bearing races in properly. That's why I reiterate that you should check which way these races originally were installed as you take the unit apart.*

The general line of "bell rotors" was developed by engineers at Cornell Dubilier Electronics about 1950 starting with the TR-2 and TR-4 series of rotators designed for directional TV antennas which were just then becoming popular. These models were meant to compliment their existing line of smaller rotators and in many cases, turned out to be the "big brothers" as some of the control units would work on both series.

Rotor Repair and Maintenance cont.

23. Ah, but now, back to work. The final bearing race, full of gooey greasy bearings, is ready to be placed in the groove atop the piece on which the motor is attached. The same caution as noted in Step 19 should be noted here too. The only difference here is, since you're almost finished with the job, any ball bearings dropped now will roll down the heating vent or will disappear completely..... never to be found again. Please don't ask me how I know this, just take my word for it. The bearing race should be placed in the groove in the same direction that they were in Step 7. For my rotator, it placed the smooth side of the plastic race down toward the inside of the rotator. The ball bearing races in my rotator go with the flat part of the plastic toward the center, i.e., when fully assembled, the two bearing races flat pieces face each other to the inside.

24. Now it's time to place the bottom piece back on the top shell. If you marked the two pieces correctly back in Step 3 they should match up perfectly.

25. Find where you put the screws removed from the case and tighten them down securely. Remember that this rotor will be where you can't get to it very easily so give that wrench just one more little tightening on each screw.

26. You, sir or madam, are now finished. Your rotor should be ready to reinstall on your mast or tower or whatever and be good for another 20,000 miles..... or perhaps 20,000 contacts. ☐

Notes:

You should never use the brake to stop the rotor if your antenna is large. The torque from an antenna with a large moment of inertia can break the brake wedge or the housing. I have done both. Delay circuits are available if you need them, but I feel that I can do a better job than any timer by watching the indicator to see if the antenna has finished coasting to a stop.

If it gets cold at your QTH, you might want to use lighter oil than comes with the rotor. In Anchorage, Alaska where I grew up I did that after not being able to turn my antenna when it was colder than about twenty degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

The manuals for the rotor are available at the [Hy-Gain web site](#).

It is well worth your time to solder terminal lugs to connect the wires to the rotor, and screw them on while the rotor is on the ground. They are much more reliable than just twisting the wires and screwing them down. It is very difficult to repair that kind of thing at the top of your tower.

As "Ham Radio" antennas became larger and larger during the 50's, the need for larger rotators became evident, so sometime about 1956, work started on a heavier design with a separate brake feature to keep the antennas from "windmilling." This eventually ended up as the HAM IV that we know today.



On the left is a cast aluminum ring gear. On the right is the stainless steel ring gear. The two are interchangeable but the stainless steel gear is about triple the price of the other and will last about 10 times longer.

MOOSEHORN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The 4th Annual Kenai Peninsula HAMFEST

Saturday, July 18th, 2009

10 AM to 4 PM

At

**Kenai Peninsula Borough Emergency Management Building
Wilson Lane, Soldotna**

DIRECTIONS:

Coming from Anchorage on the Sterling Highway you enter into Soldotna down a hill and pass by Fred Meyers on the left and AK USA Credit Union on the right. Stay on the Sterling Hwy straight thru the first couple traffic lights. In a few blocks you will pass by McDonald's on your right. Turn right at the light just past McDonald's onto Binkley Street and continue one block and turn left onto Wilson Lane. The Emergency Management Building is on your right. Look for Hamfest signs!

If Coming from the south drive into Soldotna until you see McDonald's and turn left at the light before McDonald's. Drive one block and turn left onto Wilson Lane.



Talk-In on the 146.88/28 repeater
Admission \$4.00 CASH ONLY! Door Prizes!!

Grand prize!!! (to be determined)

Must be present to Win!

Winner will be selected about 3:30 pm.

HamFest Swap Meet.

Bring your stuff to sell.

Selling fee (includes admission) is \$10.

Table setup 9 to 10 AM.

Cash only for admission and table fee.

PROGRAM:

Demo satellite contacts in parking lot in the morning.

1:00-2:30 pm---- VE Amateur Radio License Testing.

12:00-3:00 pm----- Other sessions and talks (to be determined).

Contact Hamfest Chairman:

Robert Rowley AL2B at (907) 283-1958 or AL2B@alaska.net

Webmaster: Ed Cole KL7UW KL7UW@ARRL.Net

KL7AA General Meeting Club Business

ANCHORAGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 5, 2009

Carr Gottstein Building – APU Campus
Anchorage, AK

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice-President Heather Hasper KL7SP. 33 were in attendance.

Presentation

There was no presentation as the scheduled speaker had computer problems at the last minute and was unable to complete his presentation.

Business

The Grant application approved by the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Board at the May Board meeting from the Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club was brought up for discussion and vote. Discussion noted the grant was to build an emergency communication trailer, the \$17,654.90 amount was similar in cost and value to previous grants approved for the Matanuska Amateur Radio Association and the Arctic Amateur Radio Club in Fairbanks. Ed Cole KL7UW and George Van Lone KL7AN attended the meeting to answer questions and provide details of the project. Motion made Randy Lisssey KL2LO, seconded Art Bowen KL2HN to approve the grant as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

Other

Keith Clark KL7MM noted Field Day will be held on June 27th and 28 and that setup would begin with the departure from the CCV garage at 0900 on Friday, June 26th. Keith noted they are still looking for an infrared station volunteer. Heather Hasper noted that ARRL public service announcements were airing on the 14 Clear Channel radio stations.

Activities Manager Pat Wilke WL7JA noted the upcoming speakers for the July, August and September meetings. July's presentation will be on the Elmendorf Air Force Base Emergency Management System, August will be the Anchorage Police Department Dispatch Center and September's speaker is scheduled to be from NASA. Pat noted he is looking for volunteers for the Alaska State Fair.

Heater Hasper KL7SP gave a detailed report of the upcoming Anchorage International Airport disaster exercise scheduled for June 6th. Heather noted this would be an exercise involving and testing Unified Command with AFD, Water Rescue and the Family Assistance Act components. This exercise is held every 3 years

and is required by the Anchorage International Airport to maintain its certification. Don Lederhos KL1OZ will be providing additional radio support and equipment for the exercise. Exercise communications will be utilizing the 147.30 frequency as primary and 147.27 as secondary with Pete Summers KL2GY as Net Control.

Heather Hasper noted the AARC would be participating in the Governors Picnic this year, This event will be held on July 25th and is designed to promote State agencies. Heather reminded the membership that this is a great opportunity to outreach to the public and to kids. The picnic is scheduled for 12 noon to 3pm.

Door Prize Drawing

KL7HM, KL7SP (declined), KL2SO, KL2GY, BE6NH, KL2HN, KL2GV.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Submitted as recorded on June 5, 2009

By:

Richard Tweet KL2AZ

Secretary

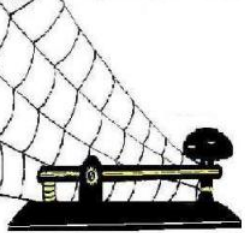


The Alaska DX Club (KL7DX and KL7CQ) has been granted a third call sign which we will be using for a yearlong special event (2009) in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Alaska's Statehood. The call sign is KL5O.

- ★ Attached a picture of what the QSL card
- ★ will look like.



SILENT KEYS

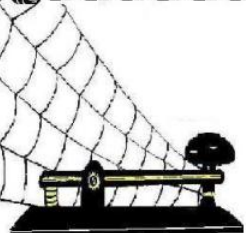


**SILENT
KEY
NL7PB**

Anthony 'Toni' Gangi
1952-2009

Tony Gangi, NL7PB passed away last month peacefully.

Tony first acquired his license in the 1980's and enjoyed the amateur radio hobby. He was a great chef and gave his time to support many volunteer agencies with his cooking talents. The amateur radio community in Alaska sends their condolences to his friends and family.



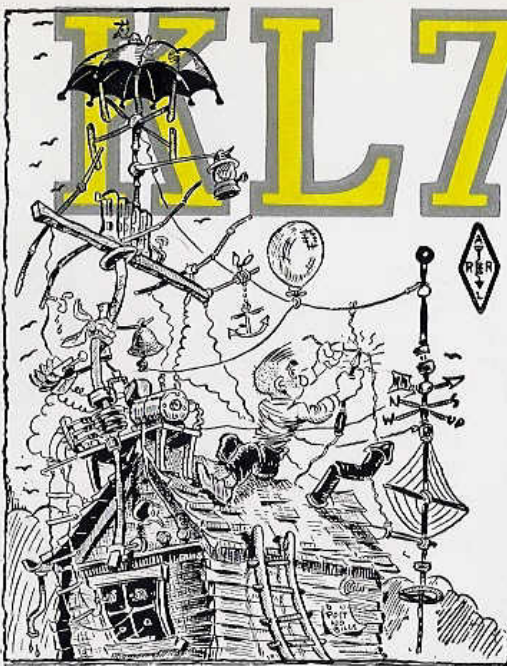
**SILENT
KEY
KL7ALZ**

Geraldine 'Geri' Baker
1925-2009

Fifty-three-year Alaska resident Geraldine LaVonne Baker, 83, died peacefully April 9, 2009, at her Anchorage home. Geri and her OM, Nick came to Alaska in 1946.

Geri was a founding member of the Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska (PARKA) in 1955 and was an active YL in Amateur Radio for more than 50 years.

The amateur radio community in Alaska will miss her and sends their condolences to her family.



KL7ALZ

Rabbit Creek, Alaska

OM "Nick" KL7MZ
Jr. Ops. Linda, Karen, Keith & Kenneth
★ — ★

Radio..... Confirming our QSO
on 195..., at AST.
Ur Mc. cw / fone sigs R... S... T...
Xmtr:.....; wts.
Revtr:..... Ant:.....
Remarks:.....

2sl. Geraldine "Jerry" Nichols

G. FRITZ, JOLIET, ILLINOIS

KL7AA HAMSHACK

The KL7AA station is available for training in HF operations. Learn from an experienced HF operator about propagation, voice and Morse code modes as well as best practices and legal operations. The station is fully integrated with a PC and soundcard to operate in many digital modes. There are weekly contests to participate in even if just helping Hams all over the world gain points and multipliers to win awards.

Your club station is quite capable and has great ears. Club operators have made many QSO's with all modes on all continents. Recent activities have seen SSTV QSO with New Zealand, hearing a Fallujah Iraq operator on PSK, a 15 meter contact to Peru during the CQ WW Phone contest. Common contacts are made with the lower 48 states and Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, Russia and islands in the Pacific.

Take advantage of this unique benefit! Arrange a session by contacting the club trustee, Keith Clark, KL7MM to meet at the KL7AA station on Rowan Street.



KL7AA Mail Reflector

If you like to **stay in touch on KL7AA news** and other posts of local interest.

Step #1: First point your browser to:

<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/kl7aa>

Step #2: On the web page you will see a section titled "Subscribing to KL7AA". Enter your e-mail address in the "Your email address" entry box.

Step #3: Pick a password for your account and enter it in the box marked "Pick a password" and then enter the same password in the box marked "Reenter password to confirm". This password will be used to change your settings on the list such as digest mode, etc.

Step #4: If you would like the e-mails in daily digest form click yes on the line marked "Would you like to receive list mail batched in a daily digest?"

Step #5: Click on the "Subscribe" button below the information that you just entered.



Are you a member of ARRL?



ARRL is the American Radio Relay League. This is the national organization that advocates on behalf of amateur radio operators to

the FCC and the communications industry. **KL7AA** is an ARRL affiliated club with more than 50 years. Consider becoming a member of ARRL today.

For more information about the ARRL DXCC Program check out: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections: Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting Email: editor@kl7aa.net

Mail: PO BOX 101987, Anchorage, AK 99510-1987

+==+==+==+==+==+==+

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: All articles from members and interested persons are very welcome. If you wish to submit any articles, jokes, cartoons, please have it typed or neatly handwritten. It can be submitted by mail, computer disk or E-mail to the newsletter editor at the address listed above. Submissions must be in the hands of the editor **no later than the 10 days prior** to the meeting or it may not be included.

The MODULATION TIMES is the monthly newsletter of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, published by and for its members. The entire contents of this newsletter are copyright 2008 by the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club.

Permission is hereby granted to any not for profit Amateur Radio Publication to reprint any portion of this newsletter provided both the author and Anchorage Amateur Radio Club are credited.



Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
PO BOX 101987
Anchorage, AK 99510-1987
www.KL7AA.net

July 2009

**ARES NET: Thursday Nights 8:00 PM 147.27+ PL:103.5
or 443.30+ PL 103.5**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Parka, meets at Denny's on Denali at 11AM Contact: Lil Marvin NL7DL, 277-6741 EARS: R1 North, Third Saturday of each month. Contact: Ron Keech: KL7YK@arrl.net			1	2 	3 	4
5	6	7	8 MARA Board Meeting 7PM	9 	10	11 PARKA meeting 11 AM
12	13	14	15	16 	17	18 EARS 3PM
19	20	21 AARC Board Meeting 7PM	22	23 	24	25 DOG JOG
26	27	28	29	30 	31 MARA meeting 7PM 	

ARES DISTRICT 7 & 5



7/25 DOG JOG

Contact TJ Sheffield, KL7TS
kl7ts@hotmail.com

www.aresalsaska.org

ARES NETS:

- 1st Thursday: HT / Portable
- 2nd Thursday: Mobile Madness
- 3rd Thursday: RED CROSS
- 4th Thursday: Emergency Power
- 5th: EOC



PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Public Service

Listed below are events that local radio clubs and event coordinators are looking for communication volunteers to support these upcoming public service events. Your participation is appreciated.



7-25 Dog Jog 2009

Contact: TJ Sheffield, KL7TS;
kl7ts@hotmail.com

VE UPDATE

Congratulations to the new ham radio operators who recently passed their exams and upgraded to General.

- ♦ Robert M. Clay - KL2RI
(Upgrade to General)
- ♦ Brett J. Wilbanks, KL2TB
(New Technician)
- ♦ Eric H. Reimer - KL2NW
(Upgrade to General)
- ♦ Allen H. Koenig, KL2TC
(New Technician)
- ♦ Wayne A. Carter, KL2TJ
(New Technician)

ARES - Section 7, District 7 (Anchorage, ALASKA)



Mission statement:

Dedicated to amateur radio as it pertains to disaster services. The history of amateur radio operators' involvement in sending life-saving information in and out of disaster areas [and] providing help during and after earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and tornadoes. "HAM's have been there to assist local, state, and federal agencies and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross and Salvation Army." When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio.

No ARES Training in July: Summer Break

Thanks to all the operators who came out last month to support the airport exercise, the Mayors Marathon and other events during our busy summer season.

The ARES state emergency plan is in the process of being reviewed and updated. If you have any questions or would like to participate in the planning process please contact the Alaska Section Manager, Jim Larsen at: AL7FS@arrl.org.

We have recently renewed our ALMR agreement for the 2010 year and with the Mayoral change in Anchorage, the local ARES group will be working with the Office of Emergency Management to update the ANC EOP and the ARES responsibilities.

ARES District 7 Contact Information
Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD
[DEC7 at kl7aa.net](http://DEC7.at.kl7aa.net)





Data You Can Use:



2009 Board of Directors

President: Randy Vallee, KL7Z [president at kl7aa.net](mailto:president@kl7aa.net)
Vice Pres: Heather Hasper, KL7SP [vicepresident at kl7aa.net](mailto:vicepresident@kl7aa.net)
Secretary: Richard Tweet, KL2AZ [secretary at kl7aa.net](mailto:secretary@kl7aa.net)
Treasurer: Calex Gonzalez, KL2BT [treasurer at kl7aa.net](mailto:treasurer@kl7aa.net)
Activities Chairman: Pat Wilke, WL7JA [activities at kl7aa.net](mailto:activities@kl7aa.net)
Trustee: Keith Clark, KL7MM [trustee at kl7aa.net](mailto:trustee@kl7aa.net)
Membership Chairman:
 Fred Erickson, KL7FE [membership at kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)
News Letter Editor: Heather Hasper, KL7SP [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

Three Year Board Members

Michael O'Keefe, KL7MD mok at gci.net (3rd Year)
 Eric McIntosh - KL2FM, kl2fm at arrl.net (2nd Year)
 Bruce McCormick, KL7BM kl7bm at arrl.net (1st year)

One Year Board Members

TJ Sheffield - KL7TS, kl7ts at arrl.net
 Craig Severson - KL2FN, chipman at clearwire.net
 John Orella: KL7LL, kl7ll at arrl.net
 Susan Woods: NL7NN, NL7NN4606 at yahoo.com
 Tom Rutigliano, NL7TZ, tomr at alaska.net
 Sean Jensen, KL2CO, sean.jensen at gmail.com
 Hugh McLaughlin, KL7HM kl7hm at arrl.net
 Kathleen O'Keefe, KL7KO (Past President) kok at woodscross.net

AARC web page & Email contact addresses:

Homepage: <http://www.KL7AA.net/>
Webmaster: [webmaster at kl7aa.net](mailto:webmaster@kl7aa.net)
Membership: [membership at kl7aa.net](mailto:membership@kl7aa.net)
Newsletter: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

News Letter Submissions, Information or corrections:

Submissions must be received 2 weeks before meeting
 Email: [editor at kl7aa.net](mailto:editor@kl7aa.net)

Any AARC sponsored repeater, with or without an auto-patch, will always be open to all licensed amateur radio operators in the area who are authorized to operate on those frequencies.

Anchorage & Mat Valley Area Repeaters-a/o JAN 1 2009

KL7AA: Flattop Mountain 2,200 ft

146.94/34 MHz, 80 watts, auto-patch, 141.3 Hz PL
 224.94/223.34, 25 watts, no patch, no PL
 444.70/449.70, 25 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 PL

WL7CVG: Mount Susitna 4,396 ft

VHF: WL7CVG/R1 147.270/147.870 PL 103.5, no auto-patch
 UHF: WL7CVG/R3 443.300/448.300 PL 103.5, no auto-patch

WL7CVF: Grubstake: Hatcher Pass 4,536 ft

VHF: WL7CVF/R1 147.330 / 147.930 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)
 UHF: WL7CVF/R3 443.900 / 448.900 PL 103.5 Hz (no patch)

KL7ION at Mt. Gordon Lyon: PARKA 3,940 ft

147.30 / 147.90, MHz - 80 watts, no patch, 141.3 Hz PL

KL7AIR Elmendorf AFB: EARS: 146.67/146.07, 107.2 Hz PL

KL7CC, Anchorage Hillside, SCRC & QCWA

146.97/.37 MHz, 30 watts, auto-patch, 103.5 Hz PL

KL7M Anchorage Hillside

147.21 / 147.81 MHz, on IRLP, 97.4 Hz PL

KL5E Chugiak: 147.15/147.75, 123.0 Hz PL, auto-patch

KL7JFU, KGB road, MARA: 146.85/146.25, auto-patch, no PL

Palmer IRLP: 146.64/.04, simplex patch, no PL

Mile 58.3 Parks Highway IRLP: 147.09/.69 MHz, 97.4 Hz PL

Winlink VHF RMS 145.190 MHz, mode is Packet.**KL7JFT-10**

KL3K, Girdwood - IRLP

146.76 / 146.16 MHz, 25 watts, no patch, 97.4 Hz PL

KL7AX: South Anchorage IRLP - 146.79/ 146.19 MHz, 100 Hz PL

WL7CWE: Cliffside Amateur Radio Association

WL7CWE Anchorage IRLP

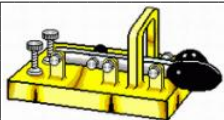
2 Meter: 146.82/146.22MHz PL 103.5

6 Meter: 51.65 output / 51.15 input, PL 103.5Hz

70 cm: 444.85/449.850 MHz PL: 103.5 Hz (Node 3400)

South Central Area Simplex Frequencies

146.52 MHz Calling and Emergency frequency
 147.57 MHz National DX Calling / Coordinating frequency
 146.49 MHz Anchorage area simplex chat
 146.43 MHz Mat-Su Valley simplex chat
 147.42 MHz Peninsula simplex chat
 146.58 MHz Simplex IRLP - Wasilla Lake



Nets in Alaska: The following nets are active in South-Central Alaska:

VHF

ARES Net: 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Thursdays at 8:00 PM local
PARKA Net 147.30/.90, 141.3 HZ Thursdays at 7:00 PM local
Morning Road and Weather Report:
 147.27/87 103.5Hz - Daily at 9:00 AM
No Name Net: 146.85/.25 repeater Sundays 8:00 PM
Big City Simplex Net: 146.520, 446.0, 52.320 FM, 29.6 FM,
 28.400 USB With Packet 145.01 and 147.96, Tuesdays 8:00 PM local
Grandson of SSB Net: 144.20 USB Mondays 8:00 PM local
Alaska VHF Up Net: 144.200 USB Saturdays 9:00 AM local
Statewide LINK Net: 147.27/87 103.5Hz Sunday 8:00 PM local
 Echolink: KL7M

HF

⇒ **Alaska Sniper's Net**
 3.920 MHz 6:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **Alaska Bush Net:** 7.093 MHz 8:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **Alaska Motley Net:** 3.933 MHz 9:00 PM daily
 ⇒ **ACWN (Alaska CW Net)**
 3534, 7042 Daily @ 0700 -1000,
 Net Purpose: Formal NTS traffic via CW.
 AL7N or KL5T monitoring.
 ⇒ **Alaska Pacific Net:**
 14.292 MHz 8:00 AM M-F
 ⇒ **ERC HF Net:** 3.880 MHz - Sunday 8:30PM



Internet Links, the favorites from our readers:

AARC <http://www.KL7AA.net>
SCRC <http://www.KL7G.org>
EARS <http://www.kl7air.us>
MARA <http://www.kl7jfu.com>
Moose Horn ARC <http://www.moosehornarc.com>
PARKA <http://www.parka-kl7ion.com>
ARES <http://www.aresalaska.org>
Practice Exams : <http://www.AA9PW.com>
Fairbanks AARC: <http://www.kl7kc.com/>
ALASKA MARS: <http://www.akmars.org>
Alaska VHF-Up Group: <http://www.kl7uw.com/avg.htm>
B  thel Amateur Radio Klub: <http://www.al7yk.org/>
Yukon Amateur Radio Association:
<http://www.yara.ca/>

Links for Propagation

<http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/>
QRP and Homebrew Links <http://www.AL7FS.us>
Solar Terrestrial Activity

<http://www.spaceweather.com>
<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/>

Propagation Report Recording 566-1819

Please let us know if there are other clubs pages or good starting points that should appear here.

Report dead links or bad info to editor@kl7aa.net

Regular HAM Gatherings:

Tuesday Lunch, 11:30 AM: Denny's on Denali behind Sears. Several old timers show for this and have lots of stories to share about amateur radio in Alaska.

Saturdays Breakfast, 7:30 AM: Here is a good way to get started on the weekend. Come and meet with some of the locals and have a great breakfast at Peggy's Restaurant at the corner of Concrete Avenue and 5th Avenue across from Merrill Field. Great Fun.

Who Do I Contact to Join AARC

Fred Erickson KL7FE
12531 Alpine Dr
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121
E-mail: [membership \(at\) kl7aa.net](mailto:membership(at)kl7aa.net)
Phone number: 345-2181
Annual Dues are \$12 (prorated as appropriate)
Additional Member in same household is \$6.
Full Time Student is no charge.
Ask about Life Memberships



MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Friday each month: AARC general meeting - 7:00 PM in the Carr-Gottstein Building, on the APU Campus. Talk in will be on 147.27+ repeater.

1st Tuesday each month (except for holidays): VE License Exam 6:30 PM, at the Hope Cottage offices, 540 W International. Bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

2nd Saturday each month: PARKA Meeting at 11:00 AM. Polar Amateur Radio Klub of Alaska. All amateurs welcome. Denny's on Denali Street in Anchorage. Talk in on 147.30+.

2nd Saturday each month (except for holidays): VE License Exams at 2:00 PM. at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. Be sure to bring photo ID, copy of license (if any) and any certificates of completion. Contact: Jim Wiley, KL7CC 338-0662.

3rd Saturday of each Quarter month: EARS general meeting at 3:00 PM. EARS meetings are held formally each Quarter during the first month: Jan, April, July, and October. Meetings are held informally each month at R1 North. Contact info - PO Box 6079, Elmendorf AFB 99506 or email Ron Keech, KL7YK for information. EARS: 552-2664 (recording); Talk in on 146.67-. Email: KL7AIR@arrl.net or KL7YK@arrl.net

3rd Tuesday each month: AARC Board meeting at 7:00 PM at Hope Cottage 540 W. International. All hams are invited and encouraged to attend.

4th Saturday of each month: Valley VE Testing at 7PM. sessions will be held at the Wasilla Red Cross at 7 pm on the fourth Saturday of each month unless it is a major holiday weekend. Wasilla Red Cross is in the Westside Mall, next to Speedy Glass...it's just a click up from AIH hardware.

The last Friday each month: MARA meeting at 7PM Fire Station 61, located two blocks up Lucille Drive, from the Parks hwy. Talk-in help for the meeting can be acquired on either the 146.640 or 146.850 repeaters. Further details can be found by contacting Tim Comfort, NL7SK, [NL7SK at arrl.net](mailto:NL7SK@arrl.net).

CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame



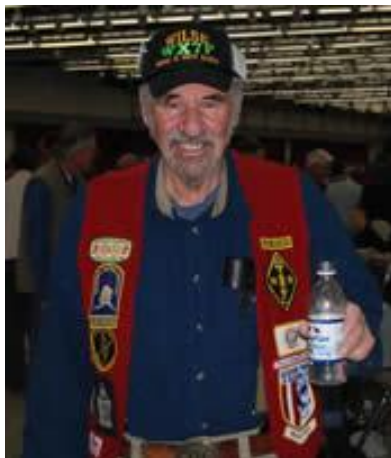
CQ magazine recently announced its 2009 Hall of Fame inductees, welcoming 15 new members into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame, two new members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame and one new member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to Amateur Radio; and those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to Amateur Radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. The CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of Amateur Radio but who also "give back" to Amateur Radio in outstanding ways.

One of the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club lifetime members has been included.

Wilse Morgan, WX7P

Conducted the first Amateur Radio license exam session under the Volunteer Examiner program in 1984. Morgan helped get the VE program approved and allowed the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club to become the first official VE Program in the nation. Wilse also designed innovative antennas and has been on the cover of several CQ magazines. Wilse was the trustee of the Alaska DX club for many years prior to moving to his current location in Rice, WA.

Wilse was fortunate to attend the 2008 ARRL Alaska Convention and provide his traditional Auctioneer voice. Congratulations.



Anchorage Amateur Radio Club Membership Application / Renewal

Membership Chairman: Fred Erickson, KL7FE
Email: membership@kl7aa.net
Phone Number: 345-2181

**All annual memberships
expire on
December 31st.**

Mail - In Membership Application

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ HOME _____ E-MAIL: _____

_____ WORK _____

_____ MOBILE _____

Are you a member of ARRL?

YES _____

NO _____



DUES:

Dues for the calendar year (Jan through Dec) are as follows:

Individual Membership	\$12.00 (\$6.00 for each additional member at the same address)
Full Time Student	No Charge

Dues for **New** Members, joining the club for the first time will have their dues pro-rated from the month they first join to the end of the year at a rate of \$1 per month. For example, if you join in the beginning of August, your dues for the remainder of the year are \$5

Life Time Membership	\$250.00 (if over 65, inquire about reduced rates)
----------------------	--

I am enclosing payment for:

Subscription / Renewal for _____ year(s).

Total US Dollars Enclosed: \$ _____

What year did you get
your first Ham
License? _____

Please mail your payment and completed application to:

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club
c/o: Fred Erickson, KL7FE
12531 Alpine Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516-3121

THE MODULATION TIMES

Anchorage Amateur Radio Club, Inc
Post Office Box 101987
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1987
www.kl7aa.net

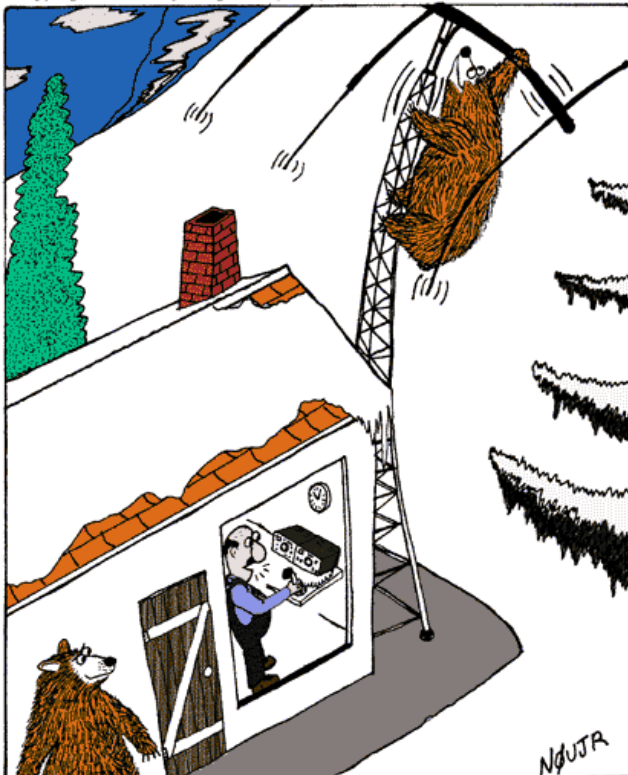
PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 69



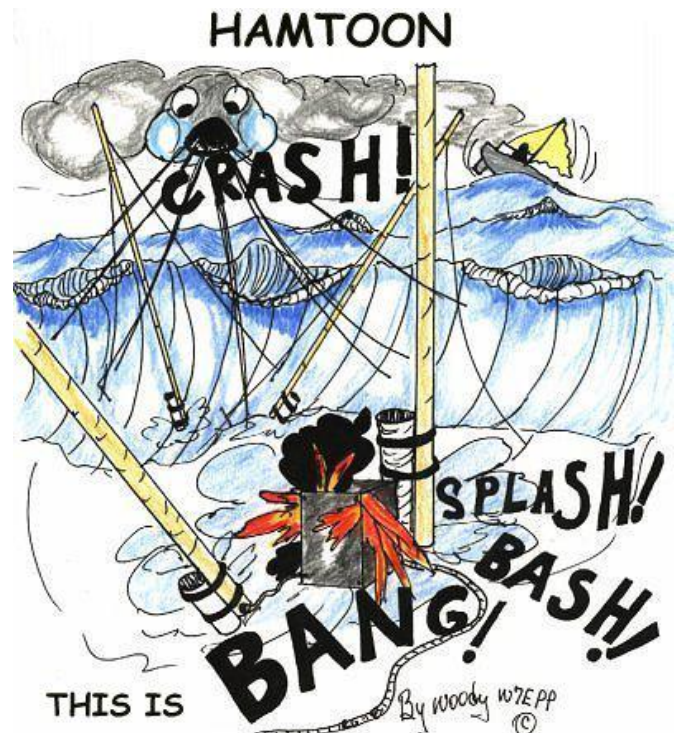
*ARRL Affiliated
Club for more
than 50 years*

AMATEUR RADIO

Copyright © 1997 by Greg Trook, N0UJR



"Hang on a minute Larry...my SWR is jumping...I'm going outside and see what the problem is..."



THIS IS
W7KCZ , I THINK I LOST YOU,
YOUR REPORT AGAIN PLEASE !